

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

IN RE APPLICATION OF: Yasushi NAKAZATO, et al.

GAU: Unassigned

SERIAL NO: New Divisional Application

EXAMINER: Unassigned

FILED: Herewith

FOR: IMAGE FORMING APPARATUS

**REQUEST FOR PRIORITY**

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA 22313

SIR:

- Full benefit of the filing date of U.S. Application Serial Number 10/426,871, filed May 1, 2003, is claimed pursuant to the provisions of 35 U.S.C. §120.
- Full benefit of the filing date(s) of U.S. Provisional Application(s) is claimed pursuant to the provisions of 35 U.S.C. §119(e): Application No. Date Filed
- Applicants claim any right to priority from any earlier filed applications to which they may be entitled pursuant to the provisions of 35 U.S.C. §119, as noted below.

In the matter of the above-identified application for patent, notice is hereby given that the applicants claim as priority:

<u>COUNTRY</u>	<u>APPLICATION NUMBER</u>	<u>MONTH/DAY/YEAR</u>
Japan	10-124640	May 7, 1998
Japan	10-128728	May 12, 1998
Japan	11-099724	April 7, 1999

Certified copies of the corresponding Convention Application(s)

- are submitted herewith
- will be submitted prior to payment of the Final Fee
- were filed in prior application Serial No. 09/305,275 (now U.S. Patent No. 6,236,820), filed May 5, 1999.
- were submitted to the International Bureau in PCT Application Number  
Receipt of the certified copies by the International Bureau in a timely manner under PCT Rule 17.1(a) has been acknowledged as evidenced by the attached PCT/IB/304.
- (A) Application Serial No.(s) were filed in prior application Serial No. filed ; and
- (B) Application Serial No.(s)
  - are submitted herewith
  - will be submitted prior to payment of the Final Fee

Respectfully Submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND  
MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.

Gregory J. Maier  
Registration No. 25,599

Customer Number

22850

Tel. (703) 413-3000  
Fax. (703) 413-2220  
(OSMMN 05/03)  
I:\USER\PCHEA\242419US\242419\_PRIORITY RQ.DOC

James J. Kulbaski  
Registration No. 34,648